

many African journalists face. This resolution asks that these brave men and women be supported in their struggle.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution, and, Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ROBERT MENENDEZ), and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for their support as co-authors.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to commend the gentleman for his exceptional statement and his initiative.

Mr. GILMAN. I rise in support of H. Res. 415, a resolution supporting the development of Radio Democracy for Africa. Through this resolution, we are encouraging VOA to promote independent radio broadcasting throughout Africa. A free and independent media is a cornerstone to democracy development. The VOA has a solid reputation in Africa, and field visits to several countries by the Director of VOA underscored the importance and interest in receiving journalism training. Developing an indigenous core of journalists coupled with more targeted VOA programming will help build an independent media and provide objective news sources.

Support for democracy must be a major policy objective in Africa. International broadcasts and media development in the region serves this vital policy direction.

This resolution demonstrates Congressional support for the enhanced program efforts by the VOA. At a time of continued unrest in certain African countries, a comprehensive broadcast and training program is the right thing to do at the right time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 415, to promote independent radio broadcasting in Africa. I am proud to be one of the original cosponsors of this resolution introduced by my friend, Mr. ROYCE, the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa.

Radio is probably the most important mass communications medium in Africa, a continent plagued by numerous conflicts and crises. Radio is the primary means of transmitting vital information between African populations. It has the potential to do much good—both as a source of independent, accurate news, and as a catalyst for humanitarian, democratic, and economic progress. Unfortunately, it also has been subject to abuse. As many here will recall, ethnic “hate radio” fanned the flames of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, which claimed upwards of half a million lives.

The freedom, independence, and professionalism of African radio are becoming increasingly important to the future prospects of that continent. Thus, House Resolution 415 makes clear that this House supports surrogate broadcasting and the training of African journalists through the Voice of America’s “Radio Democracy for Africa” project; urges the expansion of USIA’s economic, political, and human rights programming in Africa to support indigenous programming in those areas; urges the Agency for International Development to adopt a comprehensive strategy to promote free and independent African media; and urges the United States Government to support freedom and independence for African radio journalists through several

means, such as foreign investment and inter-governmental dialogue.

I encourage all my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 415, “A Resolution Promoting Independent Radio Broadcasting in Africa.” I support this bill for several reasons. First, radio is the primary forum of transmitting information in Africa. The African continent is paralyzed by poverty, illiteracy, and logistical difficulties making television and print media a less effective means of communication. This resolution seeks to promote and enlarge this vital link of communication to the African continent.

For the most part, African radio stations are controlled and managed by the governments in these African nations. These governments are aware of the power and influence which radio stations project in the region. In Rwanda, the power of radio was used to fuel the genocide in 1994. Governments in Africa, fearing the power of radio, will often deny or delay applications for proposed independent radio stations. African governments will harass officials or staff of independent stations, or close stations which openly disagree with the government’s policy. In the last eight years numerous journalists have been imprisoned and even killed.

Given the power of radio and the interference displayed by African governments, the House should support the creation and operation of the Voice of America’s surrogate radio project known as “Radio Democracy for Africa.” This project is vital in our continuing efforts to promote democracy and human rights.

During the President’s recent trip to the African continent, the President expressed a willingness to increase America’s political and economic ties on the continent. This resolution will encourage democratization, human rights improvement, and economic development through the medium of radio.

This resolution will call on the U.S. government to encourage local and foreign investment in independent local radio in Africa. It will also make the improvement of unbiased and effective radio communication a priority in discussions with African governments.

This Congress should pass House Resolution 415 and support all efforts to improve media communications on the African continent.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 415.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAKING AVAILABLE TO THE UKRAINIAN MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES THE USIA TELEVISION PROGRAM “WINDOW ON AMERICA”

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4083) to make available to the Ukrainian Museum and Archives the USIA television program “Window on America”, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4083

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. AVAILABILITY OF USIA TELEVISION PROGRAM “WINDOW ON AMERICA”.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 208 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1986 and 1987 (22 U.S.C. 1461-1a) and the second sentence of section 501 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (22 U.S.C. 1461), the Director of the United States Information Agency is authorized to make available, upon request, to the Ukrainian Museum and Archives in Cleveland, Ohio and the Slavics Collection, Indiana University Libraries in Bloomington, Indiana, copies of the television program “Window on America” produced by the WORLDNET Television Service of the United States Information Agency.

(b) LIMITATION.—The Ukrainian Museum and Archives and the Slavics Collection are prohibited from broadcasting any materials made available pursuant to this Act.

(c) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Ukrainian Museum and Archives and the Slavics Collection shall reimburse the Director of the United States Information Agency for any expenses involved in making such copies available. Any reimbursement to the Director pursuant to this subsection shall be credited to the applicable appropriation of the United States Information Agency.

(d) TERMINATION.—Subsection (a) shall cease to have effect 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4083, the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, this bill is sponsored by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) and cosponsored by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON).

This bill waives section 501 of the Smith-Mundt Act, which prohibits the

domestic dissemination of U.S. Information Agency produced materials to allow USIA to provide the TV program "Window on America" to the Ukrainian Museum and Archives and to the Slavics Collection at the Indiana University Library in Bloomington, Indiana. The Ukrainian language program cannot be broadcast in the U.S. but is available to these institutions for historical and research purposes. The waiver of section 501 expires 5 years after the date of enactment.

This bipartisan bill was drafted in close consultation with the U.S. Information Agency, USIA, and they provided expert advice that assisted the Congress in advancing this legislation. I appreciate the agency's attention to the important details of the Smith-Mundt waiver, and I ask my colleagues to support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me first commend the sponsors of this bill, our colleagues, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON), for their leadership in offering this very worthy piece of legislation.

H.R. 4083 would authorize the United States Information Agency to make available to the Ukrainian Museum and Archives in Cleveland and the Slavics Collection at Indiana University copies of a video program, "Window on America", that has been broadcast by satellite into the Ukraine.

Without specific authorization by the Congress, Madam Speaker, the Smith-Mundt Act would normally prohibit USIA from providing domestic institutions those materials that are produced for overseas audiences. This bill ensures that the program will not be rebroadcast and that USIA will be fully reimbursed for the expenses of making this program available.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) worked closely with USIA in crafting this bill, and our colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON), has seen to it that the University of Indiana will benefit from its provisions. The administration has no objections to this legislation, and I strongly urge support of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH).

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4083, to make "Windows on America" programming available to the Ukrainian Museum in Cleveland, Ohio, and to the Slavics Collection at the University of Indiana.

First, I would like to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), my principal cosponsor of this legislation. I would also like to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) the full committee chairman, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAM-

ILTON) the ranking Democrat, and the Ukrainian Caucus in the House, chaired by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FOX). This is a bipartisan bill that would benefit thousands of Ukrainian Americans.

The Ukraine is one of Europe's oldest cultures and one of its newest democracies. In this century, the country has been wracked by world wars, major famines and some of the worst political repression the world has ever seen. During the Soviet era, Joseph Stalin and his successors waged war on Ukrainian culture, destroying churches and valuable artifacts, burning books and other literary treasures. Nearly 50 years ago, a group of displaced Ukrainian scholars living in Cleveland, Ohio, began a museum and archives in the Tremont area, the place where the neighborhoods meet the industrial valley and home to many immigrant communities; also, by the way, home to the community where I first began my political career over 30 years ago. Their mission was to preserve valuable items of Ukrainian culture during an Orwellian era when these items were being deliberately destroyed in Ukraine itself.

Tapping into a network of similar scholars, displaced diplomats and ordinary citizens, the Ukrainian Museum-Archives compiled a world-class collection of Ukrainiana. With the advent of Ukrainian independence seven years ago, scholars from Ukraine finally got a chance to see for themselves the size and quality of the collection. They confirmed that many of the items preserved in the Cleveland collection cannot be found anywhere else, even in Kiev or our own Library of Congress. As awareness of Ukraine as a geopolitical factor grows, so does interest in Ukrainian culture and history. The Ukrainian Museum-Archives is now working with the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, Ohio State University's Department of Slavic and Eastern European Languages and Literature and other institutions to make this unique collection accessible to scholars in this country, in Ukraine and throughout the world.

That is why I am pleased to be the sponsor along with the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) of this bill to make available to the Ukrainian Museum-Archives videotapes of the U.S. Information Agency's television program "Window on America." For more than 5 years now, this pioneering program has been beamed by satellite to Ukraine to a weekly television audience of 10 to 15 million people. The videotapes of these programs constitute an invaluable chronicle of U.S.-Ukrainian relations during the critical first years of Ukraine's independence and a welcome addition to the collection at the Ukrainian Museum-Archives in Cleveland.

Ukraine, like other countries that have been victimized by Soviet repression, has had to endure economic difficulties as it moves from a communist

style command economy to one that relies on free enterprise and free markets. In that process we have learned that Ukraine's problems are spiritual as well as economic and political. By exploring their own past and reclaiming their cultural heritage, Ukraine is taking an important step towards true independence and economic viability. The Ukrainian Museum-Archives in Cleveland and similar institutions elsewhere will play a small but important role in that process. I am pleased along with the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) to be able to help.

It is an honor to be here to say, "Slava Ukraini."

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4083, a bill to provide copies of the television program "Window on America" a Ukrainian language program produced by the U.S. Information Agency to the Ukrainian Museum and the Indiana University Libraries.

This bill waives section 501 of the Smith-Mundt Act, which prohibits the domestic dissemination of U.S. Information Agency produced materials. A waiver of this prohibition, will allow these two institutions to maintain a current history research capacity on events in the Ukraine.

This Ukrainian language program cannot be broadcast in the U.S., but is available to these institutions for historical and research purposes. This waiver is in place for five years. After that period the International Relations Committee and the Museum and Libraries at Indiana University will revisit the interest in extending the waiver.

I appreciate the assistance the U.S. Information Agency provided in drafting this bill to accommodate the concerns of the Committee.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4083, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### URGING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN RECOVERING CHILDREN ABDUCTED IN THE UNITED STATES AND TAKEN TO OTHER COUNTRIES

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 224) urging international cooperation in recovering children abducted in the United States and taken to other countries.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 224

Whereas many children in the United States have been abducted by family members who are foreign nationals and living in foreign countries;